

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q90575

Mitsuaki HATA

Appln. No.: 10/550,891

Group Art Unit: 1762

Confirmation No.: 3716

Examiner: Kirsten JOLLEY

Filed: September 27, 2005

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING MASK BLANKS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing

concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of two Communications from a foreign patent office in counterpart applications.

The first Communication is a Japanese Office Action corresponding to Japanese Patent Application No. 2010-094663, mailed January 26, 2011, citing such documents: JP-A-H04-137616, JP-A-2001-259502 (which was previously cited in an IDS filed September 27, 2005), JP-A-H11-212250 (corresponding to USP 6,162,564), JP-A-H10-286510, JP-A-S62-095172, JP-A-H06-208948 and JP-A-H06-250380, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communications indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The second Communication is a Japanese Office Action corresponding to Japanese Patent Application No. 2010-8107, mailed February 23, 2011, citing such documents: JP-A-2001-259502, JP-A-H03-101866, JP-A-H06-099124, JP-A-2002-346458 and JP-A-H10-156273, which were previously filed cited in an IDS filed September 27, 2005. JP-A-H10-154650, JP-A-2002-45783, JP-A-H03245875 and JP-A-2000-082647 (corresponding to USP 6,251,487B1) are also cited in the mentioned Japanese Office Action, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communications indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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